

### **REMARKS**

The Office Action of June 21, 2006 has been reviewed and the Examiner's comments carefully considered. The present Amendment cancels claims 1-25, without prejudice. Claims 27-29 were previously cancelled. Accordingly, claims 26 and 30-35 remain in this application, and claim 26 is in independent form.

In the Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-23 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,219,439 to Burger in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,971,031 to Haala. Further, claim 24 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over the Burger patent in view of the Haala patent, and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,623,552 to Lane. Still further, the Examiner has indicated that claims 26 and 30-35 are allowable. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of these rejections.

Independent claim 26 is directed to a method of uniquely identifying an entity. The method includes the steps of: (a) providing at least one portable wireless identification device; (b) providing a reader device; (c) providing at least one portable wireless control device; (d) providing a scanner device; (e) acquiring data signals representative of at least one unique characteristic of the entity by the scanning device; (f) communicating the data to the reader device; and (g) controlling, by the wireless control device, the storage of the data representative of the unique characteristic of the entity on the wireless identification device, via the reader device, and the erasure of the data representative of the unique characteristic of the entity from the reader device and/or the wireless control device. In addition, the method includes the steps of (i) configuring the reader device by the wireless control device; (ii) configuring the wireless identification device by the wireless control device via the reader device; and/or (iii) configuring a subsequent wireless identification device by the wireless control device via the reader device.

As discussed above, the Examiner has indicated that all of claims 26 and 30-35 are in allowable form. Accordingly, these claims include features that are not found in the prior art of record, including U.S. Patent Nos.: 5,623,552 to Lane; 6,219,439 to Burger; 6,702,181 to

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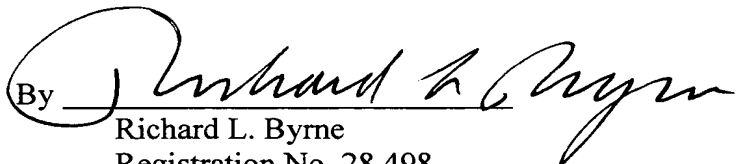
Ramachandran; 6,877,097 and 6,848,052 to Hamid et al; 6,971,031 to Haala; and U.S. Patent Publication Nos.: 2003/0131247 to Cannon; 2003/0163710 to Ortiz and 2003/028814 to Carta, whether used alone or in combination. Still further, in the Action, the Examiner provides a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter in paragraph 7. Claims 1-25 have been cancelled in this Amendment, leaving only allowable claims 26 and 30-35. Therefore, all of the pending claims are in allowable form, as already indicated by the Examiner.

For the foregoing reasons, independent claim 26 is not anticipated by or rendered obvious over the prior art of record. Applicant is in agreement with the Examiner that there is no hint or suggestion in any of the references cited by the Examiner to combine these references in a manner which would render the invention, as claimed, obvious. Claims 30-35 depend either directly or indirectly from and add further limitations to independent claim 26 and have also been deemed allowable by the Examiner for the reasons discussed hereinabove in connection with independent claim 26. Therefore, the application is now in allowable form.

For all the foregoing reasons, Applicant believes that claims 26 and 30-35 are patentable over the cited prior art and in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of all pending claims 26 and 30-35 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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